21st November 1955]

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : The Chief Engineer has stated that an estimate for Rs. 3·5 lakhs has been received from the Superintending Engineer, that it is under scrutiny in his office and that the Government will be addressed soon for fresh administrative approval. This is being awaited.

*Minimum bus-fare in the mufassal*

* 2681 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether the Government have passed orders on the question of the minimum fare of five annas in the mufassal as assured on 21st March 1955 in the course of the debate on the Demand for Grant under " Road Transport Schemes—Working expenses"?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : The question was considered at the last meeting of the State Transport Advisory Committee held on 15th July 1955 and it was decided to discuss the subject at the next meeting of the committee.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, the Hon. Minister said at one time that Members will have an encouraging news before they left for their places. But I still wonder why even after a meeting, a matter which was raised on the floor of this House long long ago is still awaiting further decision?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Sir, it has to be decided by the Transport Advisory Committee. It is a matter which affects not only the interests of the operators but also others concerned in this State and therefore careful attention has to be paid to this matter.

*Construction of a road in Ponnani taluk*

* 2682 *Q.*—SRI E. T. KUNHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation, dated 31st July 1953, from Sri E. T. Kunhan, M.L.A., regarding the construction of a road from Elavalli to Chittalukara in Ponnani taluk ; and

(*b*) if so the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMI PADAYACHI : (*a*) & (*b*) A letter, dated 22nd/23rd July 1953, and not 31st July 1952 was received and it was forwarded to the Chief Engineer (Highways) for necessary action. The Chief Engineer has reported that, as the work falls outside the scope of Post-War Road Development plan, he has requested the Malabar District Board to take further action in the matter. It is for the district board or the panchayats concerned to take up the work.